NUMB. XXXIII.

The SPECTATOR.

Fervidus tecum Puer, & ſolutis
Gratiæ zonis, properentque Nymphæ,
Et parum comis ſine te Juventas,
Mercuriuſque.

Hor. ad Venerem.

Saturday, April 7. 1711.

A Friend of mine has two Daughters, whom I will call *Lætitia* and *Daphne*; The Former is one of the Greateſt Beauties of the Age in which ſhe lives, the Latter no way remarkable for any Charms in her Perſon. Upon this one Circumſtance of their Outward Form, the Good and Ill of their Life ſeems to turn. *Lætitia* has not, from her very Childhood, heard any thing elſe but Commendations of her Features and Complexion, by which means ſhe is no other than Nature made her, a very beautiful Outſide. The Conſciouſneſs of her Charms has render'd her inſupportably Vain and Inſolent, towards all who have to do with her. *Daphne*, who was almoſt Twenty before one civil thing had ever been ſaid to her, found her ſelf obliged to acquire ſome Accompliſhments to make up for the want of thoſe Attractions which ſhe ſaw in her Siſter. Poor *Daphne* was ſeldom ſubmitted to in a Debate wherein ſhe was concerned; her Diſcourſe had nothing to recommend it but the good Senſe of it, and ſhe was always under a neceſſity to have very well conſidered what ſhe was to ſay before ſhe uttered it; while *Lætitia* was liſten'd to with Partiality, and Approbation ſate in the Countenances of thoſe ſhe converſed with, before ſhe communicated what ſhe had to ſay. Theſe Cauſes have produced ſuitable Effects, and *Lætitia* is as inſipid a Companion, as *Daphne* is an agreeable one. *Lætitia*, confident of Favour, has ſtudied no Arts to pleaſe; *Daphne*, deſpairing of any Inclination towards her Perſon, has depended only on her Merit. *Lætitia* has always ſomething in her Air that is ſullen, grave and diſconſolate. *Daphne* has a Countenance that appears chearful, open and unconcerned. A Young Gentleman ſaw *Lætitia* this Winter at a Play, and became her Captive. His Fortune was ſuch, that he wanted very little Introduction to ſpeak his Sentiments to her Father. The Lover was admitted with the utmoſt Freedom into the Family, where a conſtrain'd Behaviour, ſevere Looks, and diſtant Civilities, were the higheſt Favours he could obtain of *Lætitia*; while *Daphne* uſed him with the good Humour, Familiarity and Innocence of a Siſter: Inſomuch that he would often ſay to her, *Dear* Daphne, *wert thou but as Handſome as* Letitia! —— She received ſuch Language with that ingenuous and pleaſing Mirth, which is natural to a Woman without Deſign. He ſtill Sighed in vain for *Lætitia*, but found certain Relief in the agreeable Converſation of *Daphne*. At length, heartily tired with the haughty Impertinence of *Lætitia*, and charmed with repeated Inſtances of good Humour he had obſerv'd in *Daphne*, he one Day told the latter, that he had ſomething to ſay to her he hoped ſhe would be pleaſed with. — *Faith* Daphne, continued he, *I am in Love with thee, and deſpiſe thy Siſter ſincerely.* The manner of his declaring himſelf gave his Miſtreſs occaſion for a very hearty Laughter. — *Nay*, ſays he, *I knew you would Laugh at me, but I'll ask your Father.* He did ſo; the Father received his Intelligence with no leſs Joy than Surprize, and was very glad he had now no Care left but for his *Beauty*, which he thought he could carry to Market at his Leiſure. I do not know any thing that has pleaſed me ſo much a great while, as this Conqueſt of my Friend *Daphne*'s. All her Acquaintance congratulate her upon her Chance-Medley, and laugh at that premeditating Murderer her Siſter. As it is an Argument of a light Mind, to think the worſe of our ſelves for the Imperfections of our Perſons, it is equally below us to value our ſelves upon the Advantages of them. The Female World ſeem to be almoſt incorrigibly gone aſtray in this Particular; for which Reaſon, I ſhall recommend the following Extract out of a Friend's Letter to the Profeſs'd Beauties, who are a People almoſt as unſufferable as the Profeſs'd Wits.

'MOnſieur *St. Evremont* has concluded one of his 'Eſſays, with affirming, that the laſt Sighs of a 'Handſome Woman are not ſo much for the Loſs 'of her Life, as of her Beauty. Perhaps this Raillery 'is purſu'd too far, yet it is turn'd upon a very ob-'vious Remark, that Woman's ſtrongeſt Paſſion 'is for her own Beauty, and that ſhe values it as 'her Favourite Diſtinction. From hence it is 'that all Arts, which pretend to improve or pre-'ſerve it, meet with ſo general a Reception among 'the Sex. To ſay nothing of many Falſe Helps, 'and Contraband Wares of Beauty, which are daily vended in this great Mart, there is not a Maid-'en-Gentlewoman, of a good Family in any 'County of *South-Britain*, who has not heard of 'the Virtues of *May*-Dew, or is unfurniſh'd with 'ſome Receipt or other in Favour of her Complex-'ion; and I have known a Phyſician of Learning 'and Senſe, after Eight Years Study in the Univer-'ſity, and a Courſe of Travels into moſt Countries 'of *Europe*, owe the firſt raiſing of his Fortunes to 'a Coſmetick Waſh.

'This

'This has given the Occaſion to conſider how ſo 'Univerſal a Diſpoſition in Womankind, which 'ſprings from a laudable Motive, the Deſire of 'Pleaſing, and proceeds upon an Opinion, not 'altogether groundleſs, that Nature may be help'd 'by Art, may be turn'd to their Advantage. And, 'methinks, it wou'd be an acceptable Service to 'take them out of the Hands of Quacks and Pre-'tenders, and to prevent their impoſing upon them-'ſelves, by diſcovering to them the true Secret and 'Art of improving Beauty.

'In order to this, before I touch upon it directly, 'it will be neceſſary to lay down a few Prelimina-'ry Maxims, *viz.*

'That no Woman can be Handſome by the Force 'of Features alone, any more than ſhe can be 'Witty only by the Help of Speech.

'That Pride deſtroys all Symmetry and Grace, 'and Affectation is a more terrible Enemy to fine 'Faces than the Small-Pox.

'That no Woman is capable of being Beautiful, 'who is not incapable of being Falſe.

'And that what wou'd be Odious in a Friend, is 'Deformity in a Miſtreſs.

'From theſe few Principles, thus laid down, 'it will be eaſie to prove, that the true Art of aſ-'ſiſting Beauty conſiſts in Embelliſhing the whole 'Perſon by the proper Ornaments of virtuous and 'commendable Qualities. By this Help alone it is, 'that thoſe who are the Favourite Work of Na-'ture, or, as Mr. *Dryden* expreſſes it, the Porcelain 'Clay of human Kind, become animated, and are 'in a Capacity of exerting their Charms: And 'thoſe who ſeem to have been neglected by her, like 'Models wrought in haſte, are capable, in a great 'meaſure, of finiſhing what She has left imperfect.

'It is, methinks, a low and degrading Idea of that 'Sex, which was created to refine the Joys, and 'ſotten the Cares of Humanity, by the moſt agree-'able Participation, to conſider them meerly as 'Objects of Sight. This is abridging them of their 'natural Extent of Power, to put them upon a 'Level with their Pictures at *Kneller*'s. How 'much nobler is the Contemplation of Beauty 'heighten'd by Virtue, and commanding our Eſteem 'and Love, while it draws our Obſervation? 'How faint and ſpiritleſs are the Charms of a Co-'quet, when compar'd with the real Lovelineſs of '*Sophronia*'s Innocence, Piety, good Humour and 'Truth; Virtues which add a new Softneſs to her 'Sex, and even beautify her Beauty! That Agree-'ableneſs, which muſt otherwiſe have appeared no 'longer in the modeſt Virgin, is now preſerv'd in 'the tender Mother, the prudent Friend, and the 'faithful Wife. Colours, artfully ſpread upon Can-'vas, may entertain the Eye, but not affect the 'Heart; and ſhe, who takes no Care to add to the 'natural Graces of her Perſon any excelling Qua-'lities, may be allow'd ſtill to amuſe, as a Picture, 'but not to triumph as a Beauty.

'When *Adam* is introduc'd by *Milton* deſcribing '*Eve* in Paradiſe, and relating to the Angel the 'Impreſſions he felt upon ſeeing her at her firſt 'Creation, he does not repreſent her like a *Gre-'cian Venus* by her Shape or Features, but by the 'Luſtre of her Mind which ſhone in them, and 'gave them their Power of charming.

Grace was in all her Steps, Heav'n in her Eye,
In all her Geſtures Dignity and Love.

'Without this irradiating Power the proudeſt 'Fair One ought to know, whatever her Glaſs may 'tell her to the contrary, that her moſt perfect 'Features are Uninform'd and Dead.

'I cannot better cloſe this Moral, than by a ſhort 'Epitaph written by *Ben. Johnſon*, with a Spirit 'which nothing cou'd inſpire but ſuch an Object 'as I have been deſcribing.

Underneath this Stone doth lye
As much Virtue as cou'd die;
Which when alive did Vigour give
To as much Beauty as cou'd live.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant,

R. B.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Loſt yeſterday, by a Lady in a Velvet Furbelow Scarf, a Watch, the outward Caſe Gold, the inner Bath Mettle, the Chain of the ſame, a Silver Key. Whoever brings it to Michael Howel at the Griffin in Sheerlane, Temple-Bar, ſhall have a Guinea Reward.

At the Requeſt of ſeveral Perſons of Quality, who have appointed to be at the famous Water Theater of the late Ingenious Mr. Winſtanly, the next Week, and the Week following, it will continue to be ſhown a fortnight longer, there being the greateſt Curioſities in Water-Works, the like was never performed before by any, it is for the Benefit of his Widow, Boxes 2 s. 6 d. Pit 1 s. 6 d. firſt Gallery 1 s. Upper Gallery 6 d. and is ſhown every Evening between 4 and 5 of the Clock; the Houſe is at the lower end of Piccadilly, and is known by the Windmill on the top of it.

Obſerve well, for the like was never offered to your view, for the advantage of young or old, by an unparall'l'd Method without trouble or hazard, or the Alphabetical Letters, now upon Sale, for a Publick good, it being a wonderful Invention, the Weekly Sale hath met with unexpected Encouragement, for in 4 days 576 Letters were Sold, as appears by the Books, upon which I am requeſted by the Purchaſers to add a Monthly Agreement to the aforeſaid Sale; it being for a Univerſal good, I have condeſcended to the ſame, and on Monday next the Sale will begin, with the Addition of a Six penny Claim to the Diviſions on Time; you may have the Articles and Catalogue of the ſame at my Chamber in Crown-Court in Broad-ſtreet, London, Gratis.

Right German Spaw-Waters at 13 s. a dozen. Bohee 16 s. 20, and 24 s. All Sorts of Green, the loweſt at 10 s. Chocolate all Nut, 2 s. 6 d. and 3 s. with Sugar 1 s. 8 d. and 2 s. The fineſt of Brazil Snuff at 35 s. a Pound, another Sort at 20 s. Barcelona, Havana and old Spaniſh Snuff, Sold by Wholeſale, with Encouragement to Retailers, by Robert Tate, at the Star in Bedford-Court, Covent Garden.

Whereas it hath been reported that Carew Reynell, Mercer, at the Black-a-Moors Head in Bedford Street Covent Garden, intended to leave of his Trade, this is therefore to ſatisfie all Perſons whom it may concern, that the ſaid Report is utterly falſe and groundleſs, and that the ſaid Carew Reynell hath no ſuch intention, but continues at the aforeſaid Shop together with his Partners, Triſtram Huddleſton, Iſaac Spiltimber and Samuel Wrexham, the ſaid Triſtram Huddleſton and Samuel Wrexham being removed from the Wheat-Sheaf in Bedford Street to the Black-a-Moors Head, *viz.* where there is the greateſt variety of new Silks of all kinds and ſorts, from the higheſt to the loweſt price, to be ſold at reaſonable rates.

Near the Windmill in Hampſtead, is a good Boarding-School; where young Gentlewomen may be Boarded, and taught Engliſh, French, Dancing, Muſick, and all ſorts of Needle-work.

In a few Days will be Publiſh'd

The Life and Acts of Mathew Parker, the Firſt Archbiſhop of Canterbury in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth. Under whoſe Primacy and Influence the Reformation of Religion was happily Effected; and the Church of England Reſtored, and Eſtabliſhed upon the Principles whereon it ſtands to this Day. Wherein are related the ſaid Archbiſhop's Actions in Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſions and Synods: His Viſitations of the Dioceſes, Colleges and Hoſpitals within his Province, with his Injunctions and Regulations: Characters and Accounts of the Biſhops by him Conſecrated: His Endeavours for Uniformity: His Diligence in Retrieving, and Publiſhing many Saxon, and other Ancient Hiſtorical MSS. of this Nation: His Procuring a more correct Tranſlation of the Holy Bible: His Government of his own Dioceſe of Canterbury: His ſober Thoughts, Counſels and Cares for Religion and this Church: And many Particulars of the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory of thoſe Times, hitherto Unknown, or very Obſcure, are diſcovered and brought to Light. Compiled Faithfully out of Records, Regiſters, State-Papers, Orders of Council, Authentick Letters, and ſundry other Original MSS. In Four Books. To which is added, An Appendix, containing various Tranſcripts of Records, Letters, Inſtruments, Ordinances, Commiſſions, Diſcourſes, Relations, Intelligences, and other ſecret Papers, above an Hundred in Number; for the Aſſerting or Illuſtrating the foregoing Hiſtory. Among which will be found the Latin Life of this A. Bp. Entituled, Matthæus, ſo much and ſo long wanted in the Editions of the Britiſh Antiquities. By John Strype, M. A. Printed for John Wyat, at the Roſe in St. Paul's Church-yard.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beaufort-Buildings* in the *Strand*.